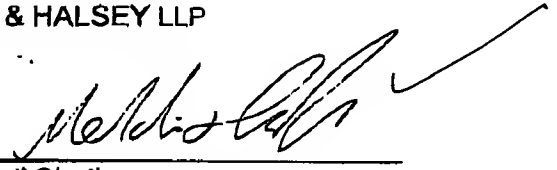


Serial No.: 09/000,924

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 10, 2003By: 
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on March 10 2003
STAAS & HALSEY
By: Mehdi Sheikerz
Date: March 10, 2003

Serial No.: 09/000,924

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 23 is **AMENDED** as follows.

Recitation of all pending claims is provided for reference convenience.

1. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data protection system protecting input data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use during utilization of the input data, comprising:

means for storing input data, which can require authorization for use;

means for preparing data to create prepared data by linking the input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique to generate information of the input data and to append the generated information to the prepared data;

means for utilizing the linked and/or embedded input data by displaying the prepared data and the linked and/or embedded input data;

judging means for judging, using the generated information, whether the linked and/or embedded input data requires authorization for use; and

means for preventing storage of the linked and/or embedded input data in another storage means to prevent unauthorized use of the linked and/or embedded input data if the linked and/or embedded input data is judged to require authorization for use.

2. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

means for executing a cut and paste function with respect to the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data; and

means for preventing the cut and paste function to prevent unauthorized use of the linked and/or embedded input data when the linked and/or embedded input data requires authorization for use.

3. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said judging means includes means for judging whether the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data is encrypted that can be decoded by a predetermined decoding key; and

means for determining whether the linked and/or embedded input data requires

Serial No.: 09/000,924

authorization for use when the linked and/or embedded input data is encrypted.

4. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data protection system for protecting input data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use when the input data is processed, comprising:

means for storing input data, which can require authorization for use;

means for preparing data to create prepared data by linking the input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique;

judging means for judging whether the linked and/or embedded input data requires authorization for use;

means for preventing storage of the linked and/or embedded input data in another storage means during processing of the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data when said linked and/or embedded input data has been judged to require authorization for use; and

storage means for storing process information indicating what kind of processing has been performed on the linked and/or embedded input data during the processing.

5. (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said judging means includes means for judging whether the linked and/or embedded input data is encrypted that can be decoded by a predetermined decoding key; and

means for determining whether the linked and/or embedded input data requires authorization for use when the linked and/or embedded input data is encrypted.

6. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the process information is differential data indicating a difference between the linked and/or embedded input data and the linked and/or embedded input data after the processing.

7. (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

means for displaying the linked and/or embedded input data and the process information as added to the linked and/or embedded input data.

8. (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said storage means for storing process information includes means for adding

Serial No.: 09/000,924

information specifying the linked and/or embedded input data to the process information; and
means for storing the added information.

9. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data protection system for protecting input data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use, comprising:

means for storing input data, which can require authorization for use;

means for permitting distribution of the input data to data processing means;

means for preparing data to create prepared data by linking the input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique;

judging means for judging that the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data requires authorization for use;

means for preventing storage of the linked and/or embedded input data in another storage means during processing of the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data by the data processing means when said linked and/or embedded input data has been judged to require authorization for use; and

storage means for storing process information indicating what kind of processing has been applied by said data processing means.

10. (as THREE TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:

means for distributing the process information from said center as input data requiring authorization for use.

11. (as THREE TIMES AMENDED) The data protection system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:

means for distributing data prepared by adding the process information to the input data from said center as input data requiring authorization for use.

12. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data preparation device, comprising:

means for preparing data to create prepared data by linking input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique, to generate information of the input data and to append the generated information to the prepared data, the input data requiring authorization for use and input from a center permitting use of the input data in exchange for a charge; and

Serial No.: 09/000,924

means for utilizing the linked and/or embedded input data by displaying the prepared data and the linked and/or embedded input data.

13. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) The data preparation device as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

judging means for judging whether there is a license for utilizing the utilized linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data; and

means for permitting the utilized linked and/or embedded input data to be displayed on said display means when judged that there is the license.

14. (as ONCE AMENDED) The data preparation device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the balance of the charge is used to pay for the license.

15. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data processing device, comprising:
means for permitting distribution to data processing means input data requiring authorization for use in exchange for a charge;
means for processing the input data, which requires authorization for use;
means for preparing data to create prepared data by linking the input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique; and
storage means for storing process information indicating what kind of processing has been applied by said processing means to the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data.

16. (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) The data processing device as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

judging means for judging whether there is a license for utilizing the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data; and

means for permitting the processing of the linked and/or embedded input data when judged that there is the license.

17. (as ONCE AMENDED) The data processing device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the balance of the charge is used to pay for the license.

18. (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A data protection system for protecting input data

Serial No.: 09/000,924

requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use when the input data is processed, comprising:

- an input unit inputting input data, which requires authorization for use;
- a processing unit in communication with the input unit and applying processing to the input data, which is linked to, and/or embedded in, prepared data according to a compound document programming technique; and
- a forbidding unit preventing storage of the linked and/or embedded input data during the processing of the linked and/or embedded input data.

20. (as FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A data processing device, comprising:

- a storage unit storing input data, which requires authorization for use;
- a processing unit in communication with the storage unit and programmed to process the input data, which is linked to, and/or embedded in, prepared data according to a compound document programming technique, to produce differential data by comparing the processed linked and/or embedded input data with the linked and/or embedded input data in the prepared data, and to store the differential data in the storage unit.

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~~22~~ (as FOUR TIMES AMENDED) A system protecting input data requiring authorization for use against unauthorized use during utilization of the input data requiring authorization for use, comprising:

- a storage unit storing input data, which can require authorization for use;
- a preparation unit in communication with the storage unit and preparing data to create prepared data by linking the input data to, and/or embedding the input data in, the data using a compound document programming technique, to generate information of the input data and to append the generated information to the prepared data;
- a data display processing unit in communication with the preparation unit and utilizing the prepared data by displaying the prepared data including displaying the linked and/or embedded input data;
- a judging unit in communication with the data display processing unit and using the generated information to judge whether the linked and/or embedded input data requires authorization for use; and
- a control unit in communication with the judging unit and preventing storage of the linked and/or embedded input data in another storage unit to prevent unauthorized use of the linked and/or embedded input data if the linked and/or embedded input data is judged to require

Serial No.: 09/000,924

authorization for use.

23. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A computer system protecting input data of a compound document against unauthorized use during utilization of the input data, comprising:

a display unit;

a processing unit; and

a computer readable storage controlling the processing unit according to a process of:

[a data creating unit creating a compound data with the input data using a compound document standard;

a displaying unit displaying the created compound data, including the input data; and

a forbidding unit]determining based upon information of input data embedded and/or linked in a compound document created according to a compound document standard if the input data requires authorization for use in response to a request to display the compound data on the display unit;

displaying the input data on the display unit in response to received authorization if the input data requires authorization for use; and

forbidding storage of the input data if the input data requires authorization for use to prevent unauthorized use of the input data in the created compound data [based upon a determination, using information of the input data, that the input data requires authorization for use].